

MOUNTAIN Warrior Weekly

Issue 2

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Meal Fit For a King

*Story and Photo by
Spc. Zia Ul Haq
211th Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment*

**—Kandahar Airfield,
Afghanistan**

The smell of steak and lobster is in the air and there is a line of hungry soldiers as far as the eye can see. A group of highly skilled individuals work diligently to satisfy the masses. There is only one thing that can bring together a group this big, Saturday steak night at the Warrior Dining Facility (DFAC) on Kandahar Air Field (KAF).

There are thirty-one members of the warrior cooking crew, MOS 92G, food service specialists. This crew works night and day with only two things on their minds, make it good and make it fast.

"Our job is to get the food

out on time," said Pfc. Kerry L. Arnold, from Tyler, TX, a 92G in 926 Headquarters and Headquarters Support, 3-6 Field Artillery (FA).

"It normally takes about a hundred people to do the job that we have thirty-one people doing. This is a very labor intensive job," said Sgt. First Class Thomas D. Smith, Task Force Food Service Supervisor and Advisor from Cedarville, NY.

"The DFAC is open twenty-four hours a day and 7 days a week," said Arnold. "We

probably put in more hours of work than half the people on this base,"

Arnold added. This kitchen crew work in three shifts that run throughout the day.

The Army units on KAF designate twenty kitchen police (KP) workers everyday to give some assistance to the food service specialists. These KPs are assigned daily from units such as, 2-22 Infantry, 3-6 FA, 10th Forward Support Battalion (FSB), and various aviation units.

The DFAC serves two meals everyday to the Army, Air Force, Marines, coalition

troops and special guests of the base.

"We even send cooks out to the battlefield," said Arnold.

These unsung heroes contribute more to the big picture of Task Force Warrior than most people could ever imagine.

"An army runs on its stomach," said Smith. In a high stress environment, it is important to keep the spirits of the servicemembers high.

"If the soldier's moral is up, then their performance goes up," said Spc. Ervin M. Galbreath, a 92G from Medina, NY, in the 10th FSB.

"We want to touch each and every soldier in a positive way, so they can go and function in their job at the highest level possible," said Staff Sgt. Eric Johnson, Battalion Food Operations Sergeant and Kandahar Dining Facility Manager from Newark, NJ, HHC

— see **DFAC**, pg.3



Spc. Kenneth R. Gomez, from Venice, FL., prepares chicken for the evening meal.

FBI to Arrest Teen in 'Blaster' Attack

Associated Press
www.foxnews.com

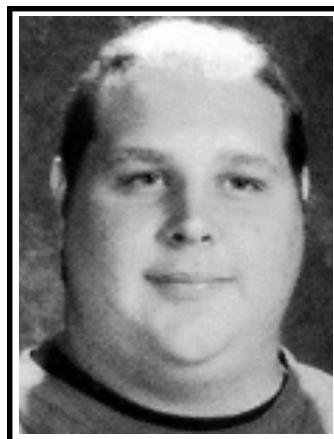
Friday, August 29, 2003

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A Minnesota teenager known online as "teekid" was arrested and placed on electronic monitoring Friday for allegedly unleashing a version of the "Blaster" computer worm that infected thousands of computers.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Susan Richard Nelson told Jeffrey

Lee Parson not to access the Internet or any other network connection as a condition of his release. He did not enter a plea during his initial court appearance.

Parson, 18, admitted during an interview with the FBI and Secret Service agents that he had modified the original "Blaster" infection and created a version known by a variety of different names, including "Blaster.B.," court papers said. At least 7,000 computers were affected by Parson's worm,



prosecutor Paul Luehr said Friday.

Collectively, different versions of the virus-like worm,

alternately called "LovSan" or "Blaster," snarled corporate networks worldwide, inundating more than 500,000 computers, according to Symantec Corp., a leading antivirus vendor. Experts consider it one of the worst outbreaks this year.

Parson is the first person arrested in connection with the attack. Investigators would not comment on whether any other arrests were imminent.

His next hearing was

— see **BLASTER**, pg.4

The Driving Force Behind the Army's War Machines

*Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Dave S. Thompson
211th Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment*

Kandahar, Afghanistan – A huge dust cloud billows over the spiraling rotors, engulfing the UH-60 Army helicopter as it touches down on Kandahar Air Field (KAF).

It is 04:00 hours local time, and already the sun is rising over the hills that surround the Base.

At another location nearby, Artillerymen make ready their howitzers for a live fire exercise.

Across from a sewage disposal pond located on the west end of the runway, infantrymen are on the move. Their load bearing equipment, laden with the weight of ammunition and supplies for an extended patrol, hangs loosely around their shoulders.

The soldiers here have facetiously named the disposal pond the blue lagoon. The putrid stench emanating from its depths, burn the nostrils and serve as a harsh reminder that they are indeed very far from home.

These are the soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division-recent arrivals from the safe confines of Ft. Drum, New York - here in relief of the 82nd Airborne.

All around the base, sites and sounds of machines built for war can be seen and heard. Tons upon tons of roll-

ing stock and heavy machinery, guns and ammunition, display the might of America's force.

But how did it all get here?

The soldiers of the 10th Forward Support Battalion (FSB) know all too well how equipment gets moved from one place to another.

Fresh off a rotation in Kosovo, they barely had time to unpack their bags before their services were needed here.

The 10th FSB is responsible for resupplying units on KAF, as well as eleven outlying firebases, with the equipment they need to fight the war on terrorism.

Lt. Col. Rodney Edge, commander of the FSB, explained that the mission here in Afghanistan is a unique

See FSB pg. 8



Spc. Roslyn Rodriguez carries supplies to a customer bin at the SSA.



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Task Force Warrior Command Sgt. Maj.

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Word from the Warriors

What would make life in Kandahar better?



"More activities to attend, like concerts of different artists "

-Spc. Jonnathan A. Benites
-Bristol, CT.



"A cafe, where everyone could socialize,. A place with music."

-Air Force Sr. Airman
Victoria E. Lashley
-New Haven, CT.



"we could have some USO shows, like the one Kid Rock did in Germany."

-Air Force Staff Sgt.
Dominic L.
Hollingsworth
-Louisville, KY.



"More group sports activities, like a softball league."

-Air Force Sr. Airman
Carrie A. Traverse
-East Haven, CT.

DFAC, from pg. 1

222.

Restocking supplies is a constant battle when serving as many people as the crew does. The shelves run out of drinks many times in one meal, and it is up to these servicemembers to make sure everything is in place at all times.

"Every person should get the same exact meal," said Arnold.

When Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker visited the DFAC last week, he left very satisfied having had the same meal as other soldiers on KAF, stated Smith.

"We wanted to have the general eat what the soldiers eat. I did not want to fool the general with a better meal," said Smith.

The sentiment of the kitchen crew is that, it is simply not an option to run out of anything in the middle of a meal.

The unofficial motto of the crew is "if we don't have enough for everyone then we don't have enough for anyone," said Smith. This is why the Warrior DFAC

only provides two meals a day.

"We want the soldiers to understand that we have to work within the limits of man power [and supply]. We can't give them everything all the time," said Smith.

The DFAC may not be able to give the people of KAF everything, but they



Spc. Erick Villanueva, from Virginia Beach, VA., helps get the sour cream ready to be served.

try to give what they can. When a holiday approaches you can be sure that the DFAC warriors will plan something special. For people with birthdays coming up, a cake can be requested from the DFAC. The cooking crew also supplies food for company barbeques.

"We request products to fulfill all these special demands," said Smith.

"we have a direct effect on moral."

The DFAC alternates meals each day and cooks are constantly striving to improve the menu.

"Since we have been here we have alternated the meal to see what the soldiers prefer," explained Smith.

"Any soldier that has been in the Army for longer then one deployment knows that usually you just get Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) or T-Rations," said Smith.

MREs are a wonderful source of nutrition and a great choice when in the field, but it is a big relief to have a cooked meal.

The crew at the warrior DFAC has the opportunity to do so much for the people on base and they try to do whatever they can.

US Delegates Visit Afghan Capital

*Story by Staff Sgt.
Cynthia A. Hernandez
211th Mobile Public
Affairs Detachments*

KABUL, Afghanistan—

A delegation committee comprised of Senators and Congressmen, visited Kabul on Friday to meet and discuss a variety of issues with President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan. The dignitaries first arrived at Pol-e-Charki, the training site for the Afghan Army, where they were met by several officials from the United States Embassy. They were then escorted by U.S. Army soldiers and given a tour of the facility. Senator John



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Timothy Belt—Senators McCain and Hutchison with Task Force India 3rd BN 6th Marines Camp Lejeune, N.C.

McCain (R-AZ) took time to meet and say thank you to a group of Marines securing the embassy

A press conference, covered by local and international media, was held later that day after meeting with the President.

"We had a very good day today. We met with the President, visited the training facility for the Army, (Afghanistan) and attended other meetings," said Sen. McCain.

Other delegates present included Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), Sen. John Sununu (R-NH), Congressman Jim Kolbe (R-AZ), Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA), and Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC). Sen. McCain said that NATO's involvement for the first time in history outside of their area will be beneficial for everyone.

He also said, "I be-

Kandahar Weekly Forecast

Sep 1
Mostly Sunny
92°/65°

Sep 2
Mostly Sunny
92°/65°

sep 3
Mostly Sunny
92°/64°

sep 4
Mostly Sunny
91°/63°

sep 5
Partly Cloudy
10% rain
89°/63°

courtesy of the weather channel.com

lieve that the people of Afghanistan will continue to receive

See VISTI pg. 9

"Weekly Quote"

Duty, then is the sublimest word in our language. Do your duty and all things. You can not do more; You should never wish to do less.- Robert E. Lee

WORLD NEWS

London power failure enrages mayor

Friday, August 29, 2003



Passengers wait beneath blank departure boards at Victoria Station.

LONDON, England (CNN.com)

The mayor of London says he is enraged by a power failure that left hundreds of thousands of commuters stranded during Thursday's rush-hour.

Ken Livingstone said Friday the outage could have had "horrific consequences" had it happened during the heat wave earlier in August instead of on a cold, rainy evening.

Electricity was restored to London within an hour of the outage, which was blamed on a failure in the National Grid.

London Underground and main-

line rail services were badly affected but by Friday morning, most overground and underground trains were running normally again.

Livingstone estimated that 250,000 people were caught in the London Underground when the outage hit at about 6:15 p.m. (1:15 p.m. ET) on Thursday as commuters were heading home from work.

Another quarter of a million people were affected when parts of the mainline rail system came to a halt, he said.

"We might well have found many people hospitalized because of the temperatures," Livingstone told BBC radio on Friday.

"The grid should never have gone down for that length of time," he said. "You have to ask why it is that a country which is the fourth richest in the world can't invest enough in its power supply to maintain power," he added.

Thousands of people took to rain-soaked streets as dusk approached and pubs were packed with stranded commuters in scenes reminiscent of the blackout that hit North America earlier this month.

A spokesman for London Underground said 60 percent of the metro sys-

tem had been affected, including most services in central London.

French-owned electricity network operator EDF Energy said power was out for about 40 minutes before it returned at about 7 p.m.

EDF spokesman Gareth Wynn said the problem originated in two high-voltage lines belonging to the National Grid that help supply an area of south London, The Associated Press reported.

British energy regulator Ofgem said the fault lay with National Grid Transco, which runs Britain's power lines. On Friday shares in National Grid were trading about 0.5 percent lower at 0700 GMT on Friday than in the previous session at 392 pence.

"There was a fault on a transformer system. There was loss of power for 34 minutes, but London Electricity has re-energized the system and it's back on," Reuters quoted an Ofgem spokesman as saying.

National Grid said the outage was "not even vaguely on the scale of what happened in the U.S."

National Grid's U.S. business Niagara Mohawk was among those hardest hit by the blackouts that struck the east coast of North America earlier this month.

BLASTER from pg.1
scheduled for Sept. 17 in Seattle, where the case was being investigated.

He faces one federal count of intentionally causing damage to a protected computer. If convicted, he could face up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000.

Tom Heffelfinger, the U.S. attorney for Minnesota, said the case will be turned over to a grand jury to decide whether more charges will be filed.

"This kind of prosecution should be a warning shot across the bow of hackers," Heffelfinger said. "We're serious about it, and we're coming after you."

In court, the high school senior wore a T-shirt that read "Big Daddy" on the front and "Big and Bad" with a grizzly bear on the back. He sported a metal stud under his lip and his hair was dyed blond on top and shaved close around the sides and back.

Parson's public defender for the hearing, Lionel Norris, ar-

gued for putting his client on home monitoring. Parson was told he would be assigned a permanent public defender after telling the judge he had no income, no assets and only \$3 in a savings account.

His mother, Rita Parson, seated in the back row of the courtroom, sighed heavily and wiped tears from her face before the hearing. Neither she nor Parson's father, Robert, would comment afterward.

Parson left the courtroom escorted by federal marshals after Nelson said threats had been made against him. He is allowed to leave his home only for doctor visits and school.

He later left the courthouse with his parents. None of the three responded to questions shouted by reporters as they arrived home.

Luehr told the judge the Blaster variants caused \$5 million to \$10 million worth of damage to Microsoft alone.

see **BLASTER**, pg.9

SPORTS

Steelers' Porter Shot in Random Attack

ESPN.com

DENVER — Gunfire outside a bar after a college football game early Sunday left one man dead and wounded five other people — including Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker Joey Porter.

Porter was in serious condition but the injury wasn't life-threatening, police spokesman Sonny Jackson said. The dead man was identified as Christopher Wilford, 28.

Porter, 26, was an innocent bystander, Jackson said. "There was no confrontation or altercation that we know of at this time," he said.

The victims were shot outside a Denver bar following the Colorado-Colorado State football game. Porter, an All-Pro linebacker and five-year NFL veteran, is a CSU graduate.

Jackson said the shots were fired from outside a fenced-in parking lot where the victims were standing just before 2 a.m.

Barry Bonds Hospitalized for Exhaustion

ESPN.com

PHOENIX — Barry Bonds () was hospitalized because of exhaustion a day after playing in his first game since his father's death.

Bonds was scratched from San Francisco's lineup minutes before Sunday night's game against the Arizona Diamondbacks (). He came out of Saturday's game because of an accelerated heart rate.

The Giants said Bonds was taken to a nearby hospital as a precaution and would remain overnight. Team spokesman Jim Moorehead said the slugger was still "likely" to play Monday in Phoenix.

Bonds, 39, homered off Randy Johnson in the fourth inning of the Giants' 2-1 win Saturday, in his first game since his father, Bobby Bonds (), died Aug. 23 at age 57.

Overwhelmed by emotion, Bonds came out in the eighth inning because of heart palpitations, lightheadedness and trouble breathing he said started right after his home run.

San Francisco trainer Stan Conte said Bonds' heart rate was between 150-160 beats per minute after the home run. A normal adult heart rate ranges from 60-100 beats per minute.

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AL EAST

Team	W - L	GB
NY Yankees	81-51	-
Boston	77-56	4.5
Toronto	65-68	16.5
Baltimore	61-72	20.5
Tampa Bay	53-79	28.0

NL EAST

Team	W - L	GB
Atlanta	85-48	-
Philadelphia	70-63	15.0
Florida	70-63	15.0
Montreal	71-64	15.0
NY Mets	59-73	25.5

AL WILD CARD STANDINGS

TEAM	W - L	GB
Boston	77-56	-
Seattle	77-57	.5
Kansas City*	70-62	6.5
Chicago Sox*	71-63	6.5
Minnesota	69-64	8
Toronto	65-68	12
Anaheim	64-70	13.5
Baltimore	61-72	16
Texas	61-73	16.5
Cleveland	60-74	17.5
Tampa Bay	53-79	23.5
Detroit	33-99	43.5

* - Tied for Division Lead

AL CENTRAL

Team	W - L	GB
Kansas City	70-62	-
Chicago Sox	71-63	-
Minnesota	69-64	1.5
Cleveland	60-74	11.0
Detroit	33-99	37.0

NL CENTRAL

Team	W - L	GB
Houston	70-63	-
St. Louis	70-63	-
Chicago Cubs	68-64	1.5
Pittsburgh	61-70	8.0
Milwaukee	58-75	12.0
Cincinnati	58-75	12.0

NL WILD CARD STANDINGS

TEAM	W - L	GB
St. Louis*	70-63	-
Philadelphia	70-63	-
Houston*	70-63	-
Florida	70-63	-
Montreal	71-64	-
Arizona	69-64	1
Chicago Cubs	68-64	1.5
Los Angeles	68-64	1.5
Colorado	65-71	6.5
Pittsburgh	61-70	8
NY Mets	59-73	10.5
Milwaukee	58-75	12
Cincinnati	58-75	12
San Diego	53-81	17.5

* - Tied for Division Lead

AL WEST

Team	W - L	GB
Oakland	79-55	-
Seattle	77-57	2.0
Anaheim	64-70	15.0
Texas	61-73	18.0

NL WEST

Team	W - L	GB
San Francisco	80-52	-
Arizona	69-64	11.5
Los Angeles	68-64	12.0
Colorado	65-71	17.0
San Diego	53-81	28.0

FUNNY PAGE

RICKY SIGNS UP



LOCAL TOPIC

U.S. warplanes pound Taliban

— CNN Pentagon Producer Mike Mount in Washington and journalist Michael Patterson in Kabul contributed to this report.

KABUL, Afghanistan (CNN) —

U.S. military officials at Bagram Air Base outside Kabul said no U.S., coalition or Afghan National Army forces were involved in the combat reported Monday.

Fighting was reported in the Afghan province of Zabol, about 200 miles (320 kilometers) south of Kabul. Afghan troops had been building up over the weekend after raids by an estimated 200 to 300 Taliban fighters left 14 people dead in the area, Afghan officials said.

The Afghans were backed by a few dozen troops from the U.S.-led coalition battling remnants of the Taliban and the al Qaeda terror network in Afghanistan, according to local officials.

But U.S. military officials say that the provincial governor has been



known to take on the Taliban on his own, and said some miscommunication had taken place.

A recent upsurge in attacks by the Taliban — the Islamic militia that ruled most of Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001 — has wreaked havoc in parts of Afghanistan in recent weeks. Numerous Afghan police and soldiers have been killed, and a member of a U.S. special operations unit was killed last week.



Members of the Afghan cricket team practice their game at a park in Kabul.

Afghan cricketers pad up in Pakistan

KARACHI, Pakistan (Reuters) —

An Afghani team will appear in Pakistan's domestic tournament later this year while a youth side will undertake a separate tour in September, the Pakistan Cricket Board said on Monday.

"We have accepted a request from the ACF (Afghanistan Cricket Federation) to allow their team to appear in one of our tournaments," PCB General Manager cricket operations Zakir Khan told Reuters.

"We are keen to help out the ACF's bid to once again promote cricket in Afghanistan."

A cricket academy managed by Pakistan captain Rashid Latif have also agreed to host a tour for the Afghanistan youth team in September to help them prepare for their first appearance at the Asia Youth Cup later this year.

Latif said his academy had arranged six one-day games in September.

Pakistan has been in the forefront of supporting cricket in Afghanistan and earlier this year allowed a team to take part in Pakistan's non-first class domestic tournament, the Justice Cornelius Trophy.

The ACF general manager Abdul Khalil said in his letter to the Latif academy that the ACF believed cricket could play an important role in helping rebuild the country.

"While peacekeeping forces and good government are obviously key ingredients in nation building in Afghanistan, sport and cricket can play an important role in helping rebuild the nation's social fabric," Khalil said.

Afghanistan has been torn apart by years of war since 1982 and is now ruled by a caretaker government under President Hamid Karzai after the Taliban regime was toppled in late 2001 by a U.S.-led military coalition.

Mountain Warrior Weekly is always accepting comments and suggestions as to how we can improve your newspaper. If you have comments or suggestions, or simply just want to be added to our emailing list, email the staff at Kandaharpresscenter@yahoo.com

FSB from pg.2

one in which non-doctrinal methods of doing business had to be employed.

Col. Edge said that his battalion had to be augmented with troops from other units in order to keep up with the heavy demand for re-supplies.

"Kandahar Air Field is a central receiving point that serves all our units in the southern part of Afghanistan." He said. "Forces had to be tailored to meet the mission."

Looking over the sprawling compound that is the Central Receiving Point (CRP), one would naturally wonder how any order could come out of it. Massive shipping containers (Conexes) of various shapes and sizes, litter the dusty grounds as a line of semi trucks, loaded with even more, await their turn to be offloaded.

The trucks, owned and driven by Afghan nationals, are a stunning contrast to the bland colored containers they carry. Adorned with dangling chains, bells, and pieced together with what appears to be bailing wire, these "Jingle Trucks" as they are called, are custom painted in abstract artform, displaying the latest in neon rainbow colors.

A behemoth "forklift-like" vehicle called a Rough Terrain Container Handler or "RETCH", skillfully grasps the conexes from off the trucks and the operator whips them into a predetermined location where they are opened and unloaded by a crew of Army soldiers.

Emerging from a cloud of dust spawned by the passing RETCH, her hair and face caked with grit, 2nd Lt. Brook Klaus ground guides a hummer as the driver backs it out of a conex. Clutching on to a set of bolt cutters that are almost as tall as she is, Lt. Klaus, who runs the 18 person crew at the CRP, says they have unloaded and distributed some 250 conexes and delivered over 100 pieces of rolling stock since arriving at the start of the month.

Sgt. Frank Obie, an 88M-truck driver, is responsible for ensuring vehicles reach their proper destination.

"We start at about 01:00Z and go until the job is done, whatever time that may be," He said.

At the Supply Support Facility (SSA), the same "beehive of activity" scenario is on display. Soldiers tirelessly process what seems like an endless sea of pallets teaming with equipment. Called Airline of Cargo or ALOCs, the SSA is responsible for distributing these items all across the region.

26 soldiers operate two 12 hour shifts, 7 days a week. When back at Drum, this team was responsible for processing about 900 items. Here, the number has ballooned to almost 4 thousand.

When asked about how he approaches this enormous operation, Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Williams, the SSA platoon sergeant, stated that he has a great crew of "highly motivated" soldiers who know the importance of what they are doing.

"Nothing moves, flies, or shoots around here without us having a part in it." He said. "It's hard work, and I sometimes have to give up people for other details, but we make do because morale is positive."

2nd Lt. Jessica Salimbene, the officer in charge of SSA, echoed the same sentiments regarding her troops. She stated



Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Williams directing traffic at the SSA.

that being in charge of over 21 million dollars worth of equipment, many of which has a direct impact on a unit's combat readiness, was no small responsibility.

"Our job is to get the parts and equipment out to those who need it," she said. "It has a direct bearing on them being able to do their jobs."

As a fork lift driver enters the gate with yet another ALOC, two soldiers, moving in unison, converge on the bulging cargo. Within moments of touching the ground, they have already loosened the straps and started inventorying the contents.

Sgt. Georgia Clair smiles as she watches the two specialists go about their business with such precision and attention to detail. For her, it is a matter of pride.

"We have an important job to do," she said. "If we fail, then we fail the people who rely on us. We will never fail as long as I'm around."

For Maj. Kevin Harvill, the 10th FSB's executive officer, SSA and CRP are only two pieces of the logistical puzzle he has to manage. His unit is also responsible for operating a full service hospital; for fueling all the aircraft on KAF-including thirsty C-17s and C-130s, and for feeding all the service members and civilian contractors on base.

"This is a team effort," he said. "Everyone does their part to get the job done."

As the sun goes down on Kandahar Air Field, the billowing dust can still be seen rising above the grounds of the Central Receiving Point. The RETCH's enormous tires are still rolling, stirring it up as the evening crew begins their shift.

The Aviators, Artillerymen, and Infantrymen are resting now. It was a good day of fighting the war on terrorism; thanks in large part to the untiring efforts of the 10th FSB.

"Nothing fails due to logistics," said Lt. Col. Edge. "I'll continue saying that until I'm proven wrong."

Authors Note: This is the first in a series of stories about the 10th FSB.

Visit from pg.1

significant support from the American Congress and American people."

Senator Hutchison stressed that the process by which progress in Afghanistan is going, is something that all of the delegates are pleased to see.

"I think that we have seen a lot of progress in Afghanistan through the leadership of President Karzai and his Cabinet," said Sen. Hutchison. "Our goal is to be helpful as long as it takes for the people of Afghanistan to have their say in their government."

All the delegates agreed that progress in Afghanistan is important for the country's future.

"Security, education and the infrastructure of Afghanistan are critical components in making this economic opportunity and this freedom for the Afghan people a reality," said Sen. Sununu. He also believes that the financial commitment made by the U.S. administration for an estimated 1.6 billion dollars, is critical in continuing the reconstruction process already successfully begun by the Karzai administration.

U.S. Rep. Kolbe said he had seen many dramatic changes in Afghanistan from his previous visit in 2002. The Arizona congressman also stated that although dramatic changes have occurred, it doesn't mean there isn't any work left to do.

"A great deal remains to be done both in terms of the physical infrastructure and in terms of bringing about democracy and the rule of law in this country," said Rep. Kolbe. He went on to say that the commitment of the American people is a strong one and that failure is not an option. "We must succeed and we will succeed along with the international community. We will succeed, because of the Afghan people who have the commitment to making this country work, and making the rule of law work."

"We are here to say to the people of Afghanistan that we have not lost sight of how important Afghanistan is, even though we've had challenges in Iraq," said Sen. Maria Cantwell of Washington State.

The senator stressed, that Afghanistan is as important, if not more important, in making sure that investments are made toward the security and recovery of this country. "We still have challenges on security and we are going to make sure our government and the international community make the right investments to get these last steps working here."

The delegates also agreed that commitment is important in changing and continuing the progress already seen in Afghanistan.

"I think it's more important than ever, that the international community and my country provide the resources; and that we show a commitment to see this through," said Sen. Graham.

"I challenge President Karzai and his country, to be more inclusive of women, to learn from the past, and to move forward for a brighter future for Afghanistan."

The press conference concluded with questions regarding the expansion of NATO's role in this peace keeping

mission.

"It's a question of redefining the mission," said Sen. McCain. "I think the mission has to go where the threat is, but that would be done in consultation with all NATO members."

BLASTER from pg.4

FBI and Secret Service agents searched Parson's home in the Minneapolis suburb of Hopkins on Aug. 19 and seized seven computers, which are still being analyzed. One remaining computer will also be removed.

Parson told the FBI he built into his version a method for reconnecting to victim computers later. Investigators said the worm allowed him to access individual computers and people's personal communications and finances. It wasn't immediately clear how he might have used that information.

Parson apparently took few steps to disguise his identity. As a byproduct of each infection, every victim's computer sent signals back to the "t33kid.com" Web site that Parson had registered in his own name, listing his home address. The computer bug also included an infecting file called "teekids.exe" that experts quickly associated with Parson's Web site: Hackers routinely substitute "3" for the letter "e" in their online aliases.

By midday Friday, hours after Parson's arrest, professional virus-hunters across the Internet were slapping their foreheads in frustration that nobody figured out the clues earlier.

"It's kind of embarrassingly simple," said Nick Fitzgerald of New Zealand, a widely recognized expert and contributing editor to the Virus Bulletin newsletter. "I guess we should praise the Lord for stupid people, right?"

Parson's Web site, which was operated from computers physically in San Diego, appeared not to have any content on it Friday but previously contained software code for at least one virus and a listing of the most-damaging viruses circulating on the Internet.

In Washington state, U.S. Attorney John McKay praised the work of federal agents and Microsoft Corp., based in Redmond, saying their collaboration helped quickly track the source of the worm.

McKay would not elaborate on the case beyond the allegations outlined in the charges against Parson, but said, "Is he dangerous? Yes, he's dangerous. ... There is serious harm to individuals, businesses, Microsoft Corp. being only one of them."

Parson's case was being handled from Seattle because the infection affected software sold by Microsoft.